

Standard Operating Procedure SL08

Please cite as:

Purpose

Revision Log

[illegible]

Source Protocol

This SOP is derived from SOP 10 in the Virgin Islands reef fish monitoring protocol:

- Bryan, D. R., A. J. Atkinson, J. S. Ault, M. E. Brandt, J. A. Bohnsack, M. W. Feeley, M. E. Patterson, B. I. Ruttenberg, S. G. Smith, and B. D. Witcher. 2013. A cooperative multiagency reef fish monitoring protocol for the U.S. Virgin Islands coral reef ecosystem. Natural Resource Report NPS/SFCN/NRR—2013/672. National Park Service, Fort Collins, Colorado.

Introduction

Once published in the Natural Resource Report Series, the *Long-Term Monitoring Protocol of the Caribbean Spiny Lobster (Panulirus argus): Protocol Narrative* (Richter et al. 2020) can only be modified through the use of a versioning system. However, much of sample design in the protocol is derived from the existing reef fish monitoring protocols used by the South Florida/Caribbean Network: *A Cooperative Multi-agency Reef Fish Monitoring Protocol for the Florida Keys Coral Reef Ecosystem* and *A Cooperative Multiagency Reef Fish Monitoring Protocol for the U.S. Virgin Islands Coral Reef Ecosystem* (Brandt et al. 2009; Bryan et al. 2013). It is possible that changes to the reef fish monitoring protocols will have direct effects on how lobster monitoring is conducted according to this document. In such cases, modifications will also have to be made to this protocol according to the following guidance:

1. Minor editorial changes and formatting can proceed provided they do not affect the content or substance of the protocol and are communicated to all parties. Except for changes to the SOP's, which require in-house review by SFCN staff only, changes to the narrative or Quality Assurance Plan (QAP) require review from the regional program manager. If changes are indeed minor, there will not be an external review. Suggestions can be made at any time, but the South Florida/Caribbean Network may choose to compile them over the course of a year before releasing a new version.
2. Major changes, including those affecting content and substance of the protocol or SOP's, will require external review and approval by the regional program manager.
3. Protocol edits and versioning are tracked in the Revision History Log attached to the narrative and each individual SOP. Major changes result in updates by whole numbers (e.g., version 1.0 to 2.0) and minor changes by tenths (e.g., version 1.1 to 1.2). The new version number, date of revision, author of the revision, a description of the change, and rationale for the change must be included in the Revision History Log.
4. Any major changes to an individual SOP must be also tracked in the protocol's Revision History Log and the version number must be updated.

5. A digital version of the protocol narrative, SOP's, supporting documents, and scripts will be made available on the [SFCN website](#) and at <http://irma.nps.gov>.

Literature Cited

- Brandt, M. E., N. Zurcher, A. Acosta, J. S. Ault, J. A. Bohnsack, M. W. Feeley, D. E. Harper, J. H. Hunt, T. Kellison, D. B. McClellan, M. E. Patterson, and S. G. Smith. 2009. A cooperative multi-agency reef fish monitoring protocol for the Florida Keys coral reef ecosystem. Natural Resource Report NPS/SFCN/NRR—2009/150. National Park Service, Fort Collins, Colorado. Available at: <https://irma.nps.gov/DataStore/Reference/Profile/662816> (last accessed June 2020).
- Bryan, D.R., A.J. Atkinson, J.S. Ault, M.E. Brandt, J.A. Bohnsack, M.W. Feeley, M.E. Patterson, B.I. Ruttenberg, S.G. Smith, and B.D. Witcher. 2013. A cooperative multiagency reef fish monitoring protocol for the U.S. Virgin Islands coral reef ecosystem. Natural Resource Report NPS/SFCN/NRR—2013/672. National Park Service, Fort Collins, Colorado. Available at: <https://irma.nps.gov/DataStore/Reference/Profile/2195859> (last accessed June 2020).
- Richter, L. J., M. W. Feeley, A. J. Atkinson, J. M. Patterson, A. D. Davis, and J. Miller. 2020. Long-term monitoring protocol of Caribbean spiny lobster (*Panulirus argus*): Protocol narrative—Version 1.1. Natural Resource Report NPS/SFCN/NRR—2020/2177. National Park Service, Fort Collins, Colorado. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.36967/nrr-2279134>.